Authority for environmental clearance

†496. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has divided the projects and activities into two categories regarding their environmental clearance;

(b) whether any provision has been made to set up the Authorities for them at Central and State level;

(c) if so, whether authority has been set up at Central and State level for Rajasthan;

(d) if so, whether a copy of the Notification would be laid on the Table of the House; and

(e) if not, by when the same would be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment Notification S.O. No. 1533 dated 14th September, 2006 the Ministry of Environment and Forests is functioning as Central level Authority for appraisal and grant/rejection of environmental clearance for category 'A' projects as well as category 'B' projects for States which have not set up their authority. The State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) for the State of Rajasthan has not been constituted.

(d) A copy of the Notification has already been laid on the Table of the House.

(e) Complete proposal for constituting the State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority from the State Government of Rajasthan has not been received. As per the provision of EIA Notification, 2006, the State Authority has to be constituted within 30 days of receipt of complete proposal.

New deals with America

†497. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have held discussions with America during the last two months to negotiate various new deals;

(b) if so, the details of the deals along with the time and level at which discussions were held; and

(c) the status of each such deal at present?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.